

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter



Volume 18 Issue 1

January – February 2010

NEW POLICE CHIEF

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Captain J. Mitchell Waller is Westminster's new Chief of Police.

We are very proud to announce that effective Monday, January 4, 2010; Captain Mitch Waller was promoted to the position of Police Chief following the retirement of Chief Andy Hall. While Chief Hall has been an extraordinary Chief and will be a significant loss to our organization, we are fortunate to have Captain Waller taking the reins of the Police Department as Chief.

During his tenure with Westminster, he has served in the positions of Sergeant, Lieutenant, SWAT Commander and Captain. He holds a Juris Doctor Law degree from Chapman University School of Law and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. He is active in the Westminster community sitting on the Advisory Board for the Coastline Community College, Le Jao Center and the Board of Directors for Abrazar, Inc. Chief Waller looks forward to accepting the challenge of being the next Police Chief. His responsibilities will include maintaining the highest level of public safety to Westminster's 93,000 citizens.

Westminster Police Department

8200 Westminster Blvd.
Westminster, CA 92683
Emergencies Call 911

Business Line:
714-898-3315

Dispatch Ext: 326
Traffic Division Ext. 339
Records Bureau Ext. 371

Business Hours:
Sunday- Saturday
7:00a.m. – 7:00p.m.
Website:
[www.westminster-
ca.gov/depts/police](http://www.westminster-ca.gov/depts/police)

Get Hired, Not Scammed

(Information courtesy of www.fbi.gov)

Are you in the market for a new job? The Internet has made it easier than ever to find one. It's also made it easier for criminals to find you.

Think about it: What do you do when you apply for a job? You give out all kinds of personal information: your name, address, home and work telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, sometimes even your date of birth and social security number. This information is exactly what you would want to know if you're an identity thief or other criminal.

Here are a few examples of scams that can happen if you are not careful:

- You respond to an online job advertisement. You're contacted via e-mail for a fake interview. Then, you're asked for bank account information in order to "direct deposit" your paychecks. Guess what? It's all a ruse...and the crooks drain your account.
- You get an e-mail from a recruiter or company that's hiring wanting to know all your personal details for a pre-employment background check. You could find yourself in the same situation as before- information is used to steal your identity.
- You post your résumé online with your social security number and other personal information. Criminals find it and use the information to get fake credit cards and loans...in your name.
- You respond to an online job advertisement seeking a "correspondence manager" or maybe an "import/export specialist." You are hired and asked to ship products for your employer overseas. It turns out to be a reshipping scam. The items you shipped were purchased online using stolen credit cards. Not only that, you have shipped them illegally to thieves in Nigeria and other countries.

What can you do to avoid being scammed?

We recommend the following as practical guidelines to stay safe while online:

THINK TWICE about telling all on your online résumé. Do you really need to provide detailed personal information? Consider posting your résumé more anonymously...with an e-mail address as your primary contact point.

NEVER provide a potential employer with your bank account or credit card information, a scan of your driver's license or other ID, or a detailed physical description of yourself. That's just asking for trouble.

NEVER pay upfront for any job opportunity (they're supposed to be paying you) and never forward, transfer, or wire money to a prospective employer.

BE WARY of job listings with misspellings, grammatical mistakes, and terms such as "money transfers," "wiring funds," "package-forwarding," and "import/export specialist." Those are big clues that something is wrong.

And what if you do fall for one of these cons? REPORT IT! Do damage control immediately: first, close all bank and e-mail accounts linked to the fraud. Then, contact the three major credit bureaus to place fraud alerts on your credit files and to regularly monitor your credit reports for unusual activity. Then, help clean up the 'net by reporting the fraud to the job site where the scam was posted and by filing a complaint with the Internet Crime Complaint Center. 🕵️

AlertOC STAY INFORMED **Mass Notification System Launched**

AlertOC is a public mass notification system designed to disseminate early warnings and time sensitive information to city businesses and residents via their landline telephones, email and mobile phones during times of emergency incidents. The system is designed to be utilized in conjunction with other public warning systems such as emergency alerts, sirens, etc.

For more information or to register your mobile phone, email address or to request the message in a different language, please visit the AlertOC website, www.alertoc.com.



Family Meetings Increase Bonding With Children



Parenting is a tough job these days. If you are like most parents, you would love to improve the communication with your children and within your family. One way to improve family communications is to regularly implement family meetings. These meetings can be called anything you want if "family meeting" seems too formal or imposing.

Start out by telling the kids that you want to meet to talk about an upcoming vacation or to plan a fun activity. Family meetings can strengthen family bonding by giving children an opportunity to discuss important issues, plan for the future, set guidelines and communicate information to everyone at the same time. Research shows that the average family uses 15 minutes a day to talk and that 12½ of those minutes are spent on reprimands and instructions. Family meetings increase positive communications while laying the foundation for talking about more difficult subjects later on.

Weekly meetings should start out with fun ideas and gradually start adding subjects you want to discuss with your children such as drugs, alcohol, shoplifting, or any other negative behaviors. By getting everyone in the habit of talking once a week in a setting like this the lines of communication are opened and children will become more open about discussing problems or concerns with their parents.

Make a commitment to talk with your family more regularly and see what happens. 🐶

DID YOU KNOW THAT WESTMINSTER PD IS ON:



FaceBook



MySpace



Twitter

For updates on community events, job postings and much more join us on the above mentioned social networking sites.

REMINDER:

All issues of the Neighborhood Watch Newsletter are available online at:
<http://www.westminster-ca.gov/depts/police/community>

City of Westminster Department Directory

Animal Control:
714-898-3315 Ext. 365

Chamber of Commerce:
714-898-9648

City Hall:
714-898-3311

Code Enforcement:
714-893-3311

Fair Housing
Department:
714-569-0823

Family Resource
Center:
714-903-1331

Graffiti Hotline:
714-895-2876

Midway City Sanitary
District
714-893-3553

Health Department:
714-677-3600

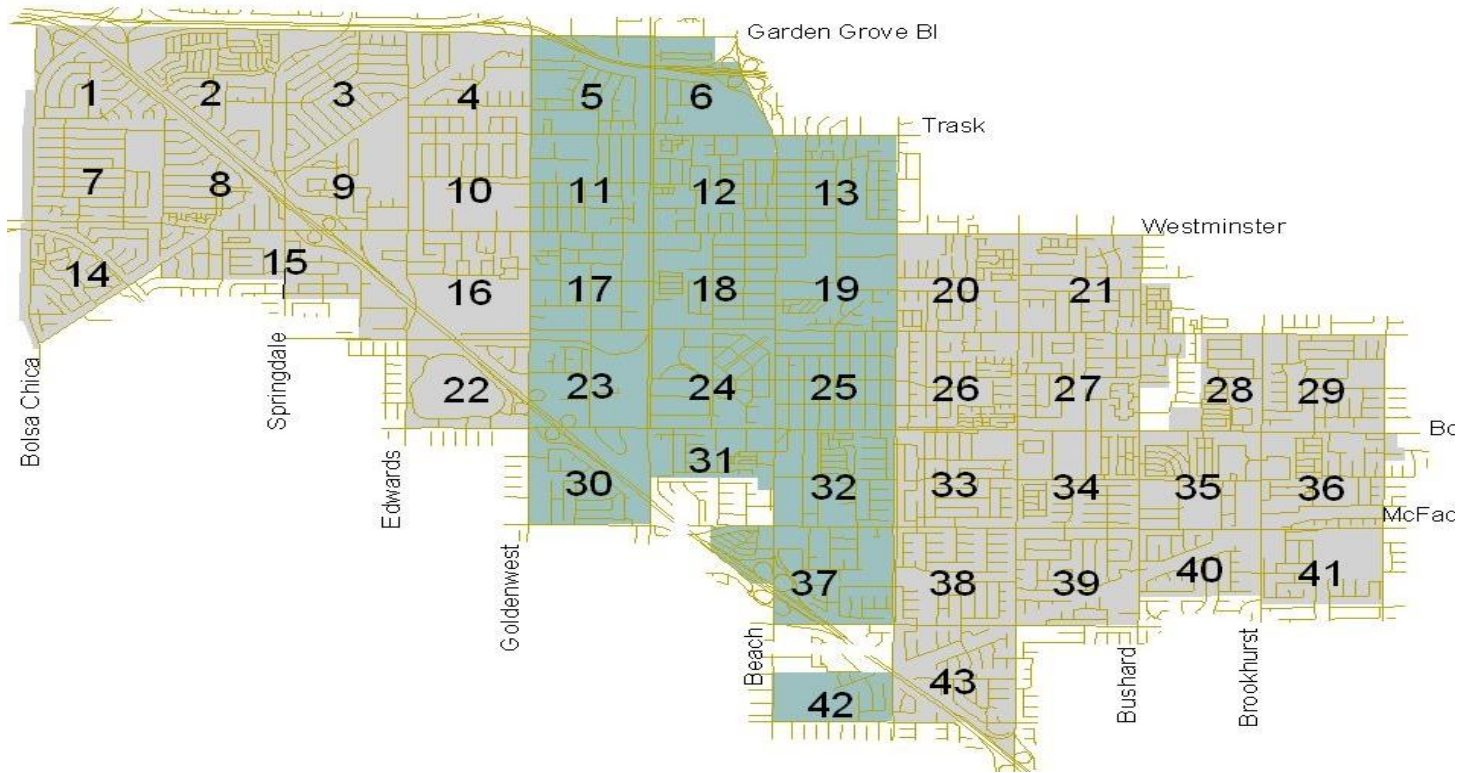
West Justice Center:
714-896-7111

Recruitment:
714-898-3315 Ext. 395

Westminster Senior
Center:
714-895-2878

Vector Control:
714-971-2421

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER



RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES

A R E A	NOV	DEC	YTD	LAST YEAR	A R E A	NOV	DEC	YTD	LAST YEAR	A R E A	NOV	DEC	YTD	LAST YEAR
1	0	0	2	4	16	0	0	3	7	31	0	0	1	3
2	0	1	11	5	17	1	1	6	5	32	0	0	2	3
3	0	0	7	7	18	0	0	13	6	33	1	0	9	12
4	2	1	8	4	19	1	0	2	6	34	1	0	5	10
5	0	0	1	11	20	0	0	11	22	35	1	1	11	9
6	0	0	0	7	21	1	0	9	22	36	0	0	8	12
7	0	0	6	4	22	2	0	2	2	37	0	0	3	2
8	0	0	6	6	23	0	0	0	1	38	0	0	1	8
9	2	1	6	7	24	0	0	0	0	39	1	1	10	5
10	0	2	7	8	25	0	0	0	0	40	1	0	5	2
11	1	1	7	5	26	0	0	6	7	41	0	0	3	5
12	2	0	6	9	27	1	1	7	10	42	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	3	4	28	1	1	7	13	43	1	1	7	7
14	1	1	9	5	29	1	2	8	5					
15	1	0	7	13	30	0	0	4	6					

	NOV	DEC	YTD
TOTAL BURGLARIES	23	15	233

This newsletter is published bimonthly. It is compiled and edited by Ja'Nelle Belton, WPD Police Service Officer- Community Relations.